

Remarks

The Office Action mailed July 27, 2005 has been fully considered and this Amendment is submitted in response thereto.

Claims 41-43 stand rejected. Claims 44 and 45 stand objected to. This Amendment cancels Claims 41-43 and rewrites Claim 44 as an independent claim. Upon entry of this Amendment, Claims 18-25, 29, 34-35, 37-39, and 44-45 will be pending in this application.

Applicant believes that there are no fees needed at this time. However, a fee calculation sheet is provided with a conditional authorization to charge the referenced deposit account any necessary fees.

The rejection of Claims 41 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Barni et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,841,830) is respectfully traversed.

This rejection no longer applies, because Claims 41 and 43 have been cancelled.

For the above reason, it is requested that the rejection of Claims 41 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Barni et al. be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barri in view of Fujita et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,848,126) is respectfully traversed.

This rejection no longer applies because Claim 42 has been cancelled.

For the above reasons, it is requested that the rejection of Claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barri in view of Fujita et al. be withdrawn.

The allowance of Claims 18-25, 29, 34-35, and 37-39 over the prior art and the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 44-45 is gratefully acknowledged.

The objection to Claims 44-45 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim is respectfully traversed.

Claim 44 has been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Office. It is submitted that this objection no longer applies to Claim 45 because Claim 45 is dependent upon Claim 44, which is now in allowable form.

For these reasons, it is requested that the objection to Claims 44 and 45 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alan Cassel".

Alan L. Cassel
Registration No. 35,842
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070